



1000 BOOKS

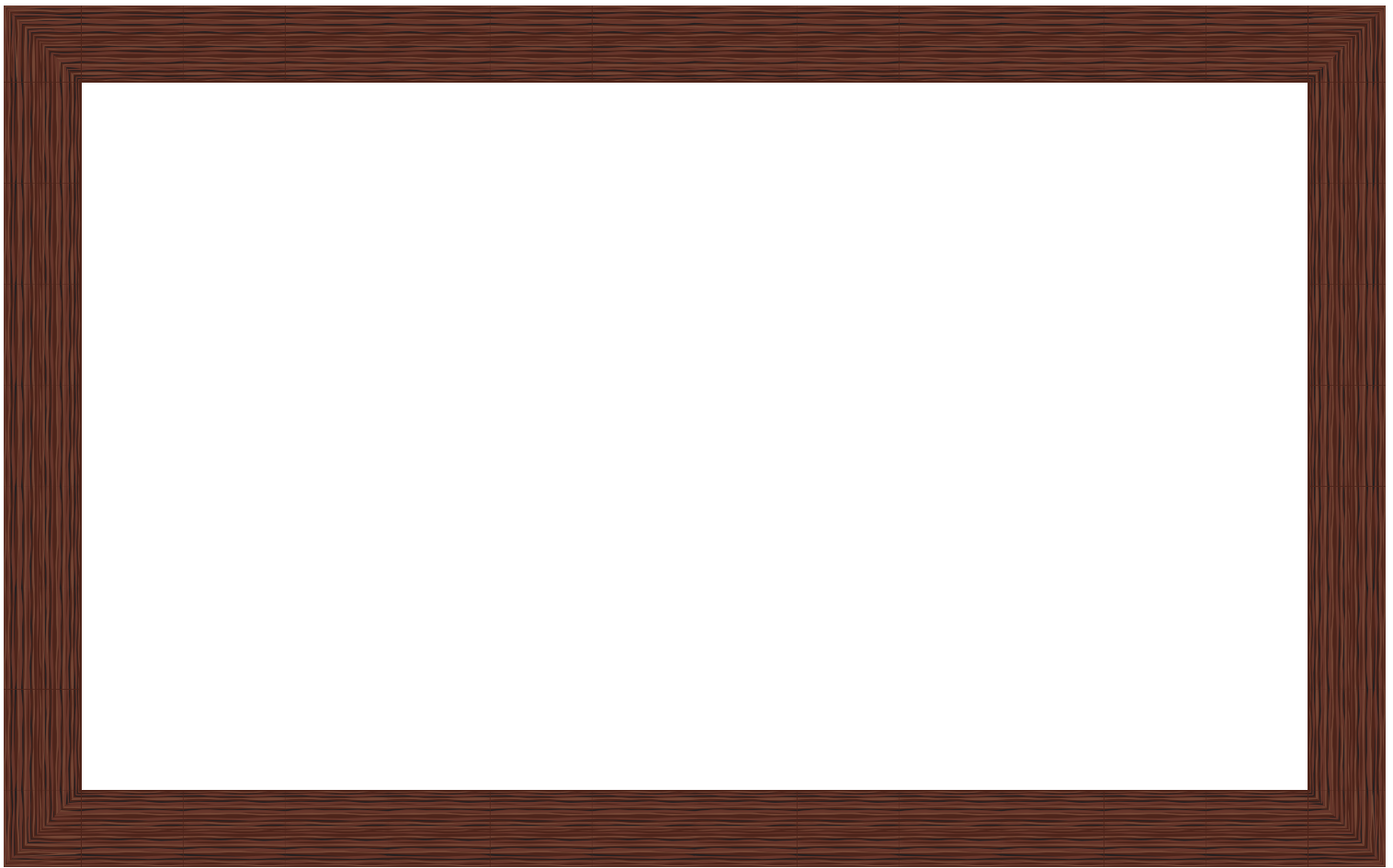
BEFORE KINDERGARTEN



CENTRAL LIBRARY • CLIFTON BRANCH • COLLBRAN BRANCH • DE BEQUE BRANCH
FRUITA BRANCH • GATEWAY BRANCH • ORCHARD MESA BRANCH • PALISADE BRANCH



VISIT mesacountylibraries.org



Draw a picture of yourself in the frame above

MY READING LOG

I'm on my way to reading 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten!

NAME

DATE STARTED

DATE COMPLETED



**Mesa County
LIBRARIES**

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten is supported by
Precision Printing • Patrick Grimes Konica Minolta • Colorado Stamp and Seal

"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents."

– EMILIE BUCHWALD

It is a simple act: an adult reading aloud to a child. According to reading and learning experts, reading aloud with your child is the single most important activity to prepare your child to learn to read. 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten can help your child to:

- LOVE books and reading.
- Enjoy the library (their brains' playground!)
- Learn new words
- Be motivated and curious
- Prepare for reading

This free program reinforces the fact that parents are their child's first and best teachers. 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten helps parents give their children a solid learning foundation.

Join "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten" to help your preschooler get ready to read!

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS:

- 1** - Register online (www.mesacountylibraries.org) or at any of eight Mesa County Libraries locations. Pick up your log at your nearest library and start recording the books you've read.
- 2** - After reading 100 books, bring your log to the library and your child will receive a stamp on the reading log. A green leaf with your child's name will go onto our "Reading Tree." For every 100 books read and recorded, your child will receive a stamp.
- 3** - When you reach the milestones of 200 and 500 books, your child will receive a surprise. Also at the 500 level, we will put a silver leaf on our "Reading Tree" with his or her name on it.
- 4** - Keep reading until you reach 1,000 books and your child will receive a free book. We will also put a gold leaf with your child's name on it onto our "Reading Tree."

READING SUPERHEROES:

Older siblings can be "READING SUPERHEROES!" When a sibling reads to a younger child participant, big brother or sister can write the book title on the reading log and color the star on the corresponding line. When the older child has read 50 books to a younger child, he or she will receive a free book!!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1 - *How long does it take to read 1,000 books to a child?*

If you read one bedtime story every night for three years you will have read 1095 books! If you read three books a day to your child, in just one year you will have read 1,095 books! Read at your own pace. The most important thing to remember about the program is to keep it fun and positive.

2 - *Do we have to read books from the Mesa County Libraries?*

You can read books from anywhere – your home, the doctor's office, preschool, and other libraries.

3 - *What if my child wants to read the same book over and over?*

Repetition is key to learning. Each time you read a book, it counts. Write down the title every time you read the same book.

4 - *I have more than one child I read to. Can I count the same title for each child?*

Yes, you can!

5 - *Can I count books that are read at story time?*

Certainly! Any and every book your children hears at story time counts for this program.

6 - *My child has an electronic (or a computer game) that reads a story out loud. Can I count that?*

As long as your child listens to the entire story, you can count it. Please don't count it if he or she just plays the games. Be sure to check out the sites "BookFlix" and "Tumble Books" on our web page mesacountylibraries.org for terrific stories.

7 - *What if my child listens to a book on CD? Can I add that to the reading log?*

Sure, as long as your child has listened to the entire story.

8 - *My child "reads" books to him/herself. Should I count those?*

If your child is only pretending to read, you should not count it. If your child has memorized a book you read together frequently and can read it to him/herself, then please do count it.

SUGGESTIONS:

1 - Children learn best when they are in a good mood, so read with your child when it will be the most pleasurable for both of you. Have fun!

2 - Take every chance you have to read with your children, tell and talk about stories, say nursery rhymes, sing songs and attend library programs.

3 - Share a variety of different types of books and vocabulary. It is very acceptable for children to want their favorite books read over and over, but also try to introduce new books to expose your child to as many new words and concepts as possible.

4 - Many of the facts and tips that you will read throughout this packet are taken from the American Library Association's website (www.ala.org) and the Association for Library Service to Children, ALSC, website (www.ala.org/alsc/)

CONSIDER THIS...

Current research on early literacy and brain development indicates that it is never too early to prepare children for reading success. From the time they are infants, children learn language and other important skills that will help them learn to read. Parents of newborns, toddlers, and preschoolers play a critical role as their children's first teacher.

The Public Library Association and the Association for Library Service to Children have incorporated the latest research into a program sponsored by the American Library Association called "Every Child Ready to Read."

You and your child can enjoy these five activities throughout the day – at home, in the car, or anywhere you and your child spend time together:

TALKING:

Children learn language and other early literacy skills by listening to their parents and others talk. They learn new words and what they mean. They learn about the world around them and important general knowledge. This will help children understand the meaning of what they read.

SINGING:

Songs are a wonderful way to learn about language. Singing also slows down language so children can hear the different sounds that make up words. This activity helps when children begin to read printed language.

READING:

Reading together, or shared reading, is the single most important way to help children get ready to read. Reading together increases vocabulary and general knowledge. Children learn how print looks and how books work. Shared reading also helps children develop an interest in reading. Children who enjoy being read to are more likely to want to learn to read themselves.

WRITING:

Reading and writing go together. Both represent spoken language and communicate information. Children can learn pre-reading skills through writing activities.

PLAYING:

Children learn a lot about language through play. Play helps children think symbolically, so they understand that spoken and written words can stand for real objects and experiences. Play also helps children express themselves and put thoughts into words.



1000 BOOKS



BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

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GET READY TO READ!

"The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children. This is especially so during the preschool years!"

- BECOMING A NATION OF READERS

HAVE FUN WITH RHYMES!

Mother Goose nursery rhymes are a great way to help your child develop his vocabulary, learn rhyming words, as well as hear the smaller sounds in words. Additionally, try clapping out words with your child. Say words with several parts or syllables and clap for each part.

EXAMPLE:

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AIRPLANE = AIR-PLANE

PUZZLE = PUZ-ZLE

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LEVEL 1 COMPLETE

EXCELLENT JOB!

Don't forget to bring in your reading log to get a stamp. Plus, get your name placed on our "Reading Tree!"



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STIMULATE YOUR CHILD'S SENSES!

"The early years of life are more critical to a child's development than we ever realized. The more stimulation a baby has through its senses of touch, smell, sight, and hearing, the more rapidly that development will occur."

- MEM FOX

PLAY WRITING GAMES!

Let your child practice writing letters in sand and other hands-on materials so he can literally feel the shapes of the letters. Scribbling and random marks are your child's first attempts at writing letters and words. Children love to have their backs rubbed. Try to make a shape or letter on your child's back and have the child guess what it is. Don't forget to add in some tickles, just for fun!

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WAY TO GO!

You have just read 200 books! Stop by the library to pick up your surprise! Be sure to get your reading log stamped.



1000 BOOKS



BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

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BUILD NARRATIVE SKILLS!

Talking with your child teaches her how conversations work, and it makes it easier for her to identify words when she begins to read. Talk to your child about daily tasks. Encourage her to speak and then listen carefully when she does.

SING WITH YOUR CHILD!

Singing songs slows down your natural speech patterns. This allows your child to hear the sound inside of words and the smaller parts of words. Even from birth your baby is learning the sounds of language. There are all kinds of songs for different situations: waking up, learning parts of the body, finding comfort, and listening to lullabies.

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LEVEL 3 COMPLETE

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!

You have just read 300 books! Stop by the library to get a stamp on your reading log.



1000 BOOKS



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EXPLAIN THE MEANING OF WORDS!

The language of nursery rhymes and books is different from the language of conversation. Rhymes and books often have one or two unusual words, ones that children don't hear in regular conversation. Having a large vocabulary helps children understand what they hear and what they will later read. Remember, don't replace those unfamiliar words—explain them.

HAVE FUN WITH LETTERS!

Choose an alphabet book and read it with your child. No need to quiz your child on the letters; just have fun reading the book and talking about the letters and pictures. Start a game by saying, "I spy with my little eye something that starts with the letter 'T,'" and point out the letters and words in the world around you. This helps your child become aware of print. Also, the letters in your child's name will be his favorites. Point them out when you see them.

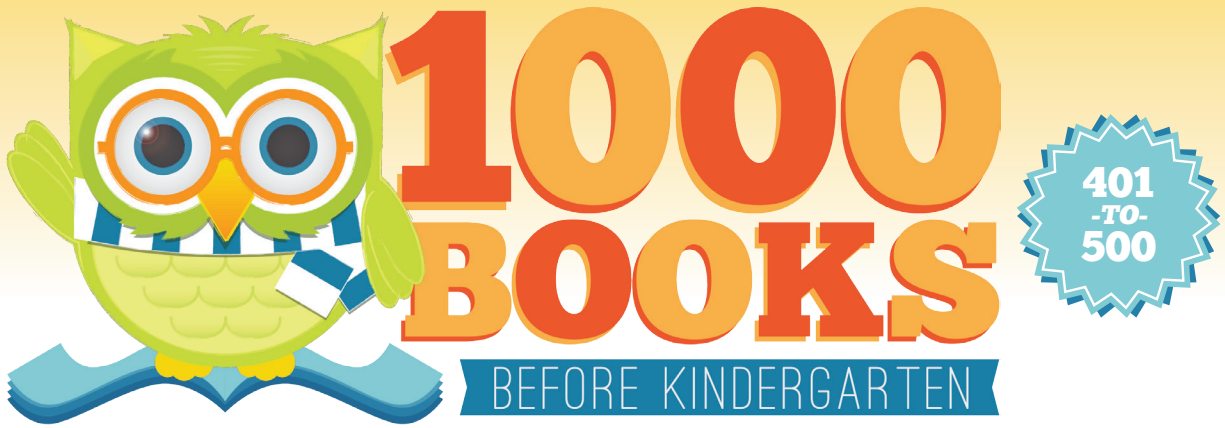
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LEVEL 4 COMPLETE

WHAT A READER!

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YOUR CHILD LOVES SINGING!

In one scientific study, babies as young as one week could distinguish their mother's voice from a group of other female voices. Songs give rhythm to language. Singing helps break down words so the child can hear the smaller sounds in them. Furthermore, this helps children sound out words as they begin to read. Singing also helps to trigger the child's speech development.

READING EXPANDS VOCABULARY!

Research shows that children who have larger vocabularies are better readers. Knowing many words helps children recognize written words and understand what they read. As you read, talk about the meaning of unfamiliar words. You could also listen to an audiobook together. Children will still get to experience stories and be exposed to new vocabulary words.

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CONGRATULATIONS!

You are now halfway through the game, "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten." Stop by the library for a special surprise! Plus get your name placed on our "Reading Tree."



1000 BOOKS

BEFORE KINDERGARTEN



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READ EVERYWHERE!

Let your child see that you can find things to read everywhere. As you go about your day, read cereal boxes, food jars, or street signs. Point to the words and the pictures. Make books a part of your life! Keep books in the car, in the stroller, diaper bag, and all over the house.

BUILD STRONG LANGUAGE SKILLS!

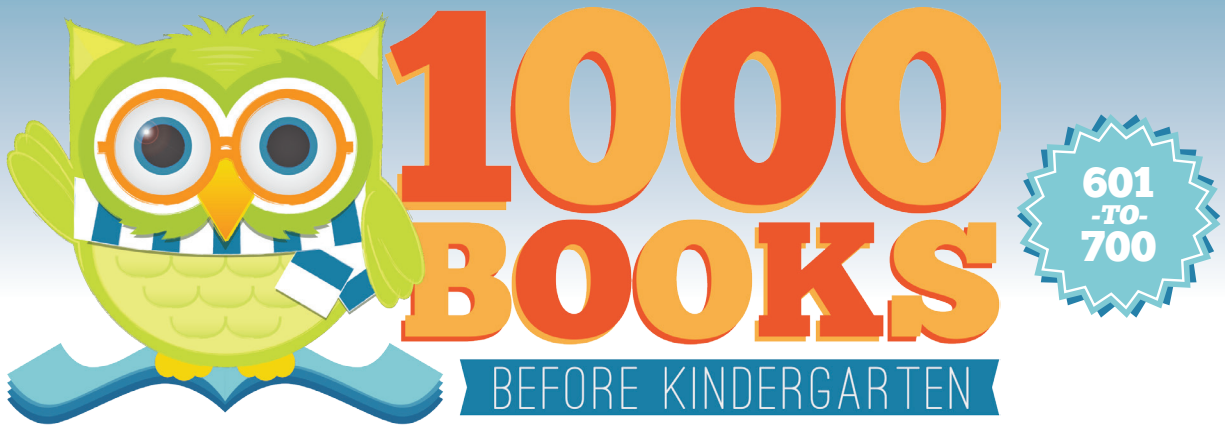
Language spoken directly to a child is the most effective way to build strong language skills. Play and talk with your child. While your child is playing, describe what he is doing: "You're pushing the car up the ramp, wonderful!" Also, encourage dramatic play. When children make up stories using puppets or stuffed animals, they develop important narrative or storytelling skills. This helps children understand that stories and books have a beginning, middle, and an end.

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| 574. _ ☆ _____ | 599. _ ☆ _____ |
| 575. _ ☆ _____ | 600. _ ☆ _____ |

LEVEL 6 COMPLETE

**TERRIFIC!
MARVELOUS!
EXCELLENT!**

You have just read 600 books! Stop by the library to get a stamp on your reading log.



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READING TIPS!

When you read a book to your child, running your finger under the printed words helps the child know it is the text you are reading, not the pictures. Did you know that without our guidance, four-year-old children will give 95 percent of their visual attention to the pictures? Discuss the terms "author" and "illustrator" with your child.

MEMORIZE A POEM TOGETHER!

Boost your child's memory by memorizing a poem together. Nursery rhymes are great for memorizing as well as a poem like "Round and Round the Garden."

"Round and round the garden (circle the baby's tummy) / Goes the teddy bear. / One step...two steps... (walk fingers up chest) / Tickle under there! (tickle baby's underarms or chin.)"

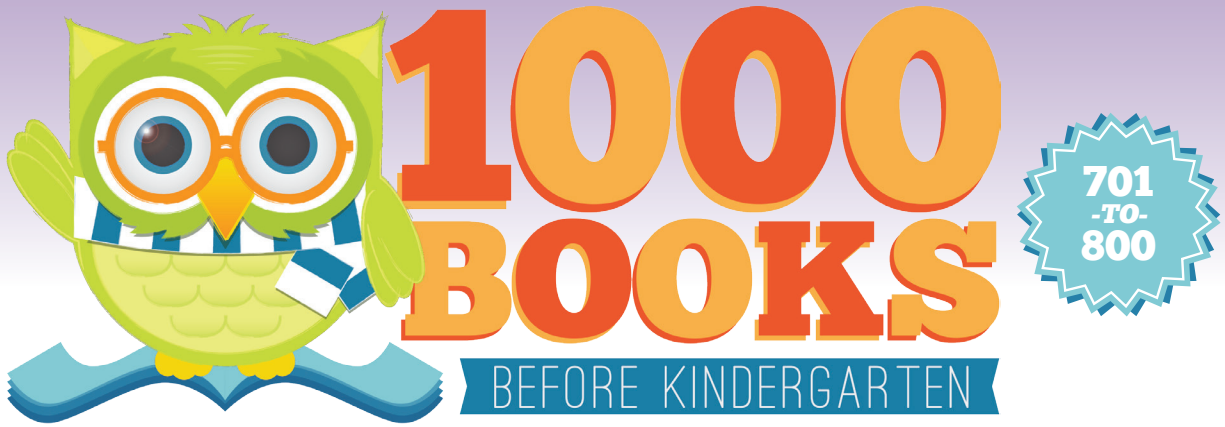
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LEVEL 7 COMPLETE

KEEP READING!

You have just read 700 books! Stop by the library to get a stamp on your reading log.



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LET YOUR CHILD TELL THE STORY!

When you are driving or riding together, give your child a book to read out loud to you. Let him tell you the story or talk about the pictures. Have your child tell you what he thinks will happen next and to make up an ending to the story. Wordless picture books allow your child to tell what he thinks is happening in the story. These activities help develop your child's imagination. Being ready to learn includes a healthy dose of creativity! You can also ask, "What if" ... and see what ideas your child comes up with.

PLAY WITH RHYMING WORDS!

Help your child become aware of words that rhyme. Read a Dr. Seuss book, then repeat some of the words that sound alike. As your child gets better at this, ask your child to say the words that sound familiar. You can do this with any book that rhymes.

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- 800. _ ☆ _____

LEVEL 8 COMPLETE

EXCELLENT!

You have just read 800 books! Stop by the library to get a stamp on your reading log.



1000 BOOKS



BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

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THINGS YOUR CHILD CANNOT SEE!

As your child is growing she is learning more about things she cannot see. Talk about different kinds of feelings, such as "I feel brave when..." Here are some words to try: silly, shy, jealous, impatient, tired, lonely, scared, friendly, excited, curious, angry, proud, and brave. In addition, talk about concepts and ideas such as opposites, spatial positions (above, in front of, behind, below), fairness, and freedom.

LET'S FIND OUT TOGETHER!

When your child asks you a question you may or may not know the answer. When you don't know say, "Let's find out together," and then look for a resource that will answer your child's question.

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LEVEL 9 COMPLETE

KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!

You are almost finished! You have read 900 books! Bring your log in to the library to get stamped!



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YOUR CHILD'S ATTENTION SPAN!

Always make it a positive experience. When children participate in a story, it helps them enjoy the experience even more. Ask your child to join in by repeating phrases, such as the ones in the book "Bear Wants More" by Karma Wilson. Children also enjoy turning the pages of a book. This simple activity helps increase their attention span.

SHOW HOW MUCH YOU LOVE READING!

Let your child see you reading. When you read a newspaper or magazine, read parts to your child. Smile as you read aloud. When you enjoy a book, let your child know you liked it and why. Sharing your enjoyment gives your child a positive attitude about books. This positive attitude will influence him when he goes to school and learns to read. Let your child choose books and tell you why he likes them.

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LEVEL 10 COMPLETE

YOU DID IT!

You are amazing! You read 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten! Stop by the library for your very own book and get your name placed on our reading tree!